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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR THE CITY OF ANSON

ANSON, TEXAS, **January 26, 2006** – Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today at a ceremonial check presentation that the City of Anson was selected to receive a \$35,000 grant through the agency's Community Facilities program. The funds were used to assist in the purchase of a new ambulance to serve the city and Jones County residents.

"There is no doubt that USDA Rural Development is committed to ensuring that rural Texas communities can meet the needs of their residents," said Daniel. "During 2005 we provided a \$30,000 grant for safety communications equipment and a \$35,000 grant for medical equipment improvements here in the City of Anson."

USDA Rural Development's Community Programs are designed to enhance the growth and economic opportunities of rural areas by providing the means for construction, expansion, or enhancement of community facilities, telecommunication and distance education programs, and water and waste disposal systems. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development's Community Programs have awarded \$868 million for these purposes, and touched the lives of more than 840,000 households in the process.

USDA Rural Development works to make sure that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy -- with technical assistance and programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Abilene office at (325)690-6162, Ext. 4 or visit our website at http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/.



Pictured (L-R): Eric Reed; Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director; Jan Lollar; Clinton Conner; Betty Foust; Chad Conville; Pam Gonzales, Financial Officer; Ted Matthews, Administrator; Cory Mitchell, EMS Director; Dowell, Matthews, City Manager; Tom Isbell, Mayor; and Keith Gilbert, City Councilman.